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CAPTIVITY OF FOUR PILOTS

05/

FEB 73

THE FOLLOWING WAS REVEALED. GROUP 217 IS HOLDING FOUR PILOTS CAPTIVE AND THE GROUP IS REQUESTING ORDERS CONCERNING WHAT TO DO WITH THEM FROM AN UNID UNIT PROB SUBORDINATE THE 559TH, COMMENTARY

THAT GROUP 217

IS POSS LOCATED IN VIC OF VINH/BTS

NNNN

DOWNED EC-47 CREW

1, HAVE REVIEWED ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FOUR FLIERS MENTIONED 5 FEB AND NO ADDITIONAL REFLECTIONS OR AMPLIFYING INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DISPOSITION OF THE FLIERS WERE REVEALED. FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND CONSIDERATION THE FOLLOWING IS A RECAP. AND SOME OTHER OBSERVATIONS CONCERNING THIS SUBJECT,

2, FOUR FLIERS, WHOSE NATIONALITY WAS NOT DISCLOSED, WERE LOCATED ON 5 FEB IN THE GENERAL AREA NORTH OF MOUNG NONG IN THE BINH TRAM 33 AREA. ACCORDING TO THE FLIERS WERE TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM "44," A PROBABLE KILOMETER MARKER 4A ON ROUTE 913 (XD 495256, 16-38N 106-25E) TO "93," A PROBABLE KILOMETER MARKER 93 ON ROUTE 1032 (XD 590500, 16-43N 100-27E) AND WERE APPARENTLY EN ROUTE TO THE BINH TRAM 9 AREA, WEST OF THE DMZ IN LAOS. TWO UNIDENTIFIED PERSONALITIES, IN THE BINH TRAM 9 AREA WERE TO BE CONTACTED CONCERNING MOVEMENT OF THE POWS AND IF PROBLEMS WERE ENCOUNTERED, HIGH HGS WAS TO BE NOTIFIED TO SUPPLY "WAYS AND MEANS" (PROBABLE REFERENCES TO TRUCKS) TO MOVE THE FLIERS. SUFFICIENT WATER WAS TO BE GIVEN TO THE FLIERS.

(ALSO ON 5 FEB) AN UNIDENTIFIED PERSONALITY ASSOCIATED WITH AN UNIDENTIFIED GROUP 210 OR GROUP 212B, PROBABLY IN NORTH VIETNAM, THERE HAD BEEN SOME DIFFICULTIES IN TRANSPORTING THE FLIERS AND THAT THE BINH TRAM 9 PERSONALITIES CHECK TO SEE IF THESE PROBLEMS HAD BEEN RESOLVED SO MOVEMENT COULD CONTINUE.

3, THE GROUP 213/212B PERSONALITY ALSO NOTIFIED OF THEIR TIME OF DEPARTURE AS HE WAS WAITING FOR THEM. THESE WERE THE ONLY REFLECTIONS OF THE MOVEMENT OF THESE "FLIERS."

4, THE TERM FOR "FLIERS" IS COMMONLY USED BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE TO REFER TO AIR CREW MEMBERS INCLUDING PILOTS, NAVIGATORS, GUNNERS ETC. THE USE OF THIS TERM DOES NOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE FOUR PRISONERS WERE ENLISTED AIR CREW MEMBERS BUT DOES NOT NECESSARILY INDICATE SUCH SINCE THE SAME TERM HAD BEEN USED TO REFER COLLECTIVELY TO B-52 CREWS DOWNED IN DECEMBER IN NORTH VIETNAM.

5, ALTHOUGH THE INITIAL LOCATION GIVEN 5 FEB IS SOME

Item 3

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